ugliness of person because of his spiritual greatness, he would forego the year of purification he would otherwise have imposed on her. " My ugliness," he said, " shall in her case be the austerest of penances/'

But the poor girl, "beholding the Rishi, became pale with fear," hence the paleness of the five heroic brothers who were the conquerors in the Great War waged at Delhi, which, by destroying the Kshattrya caste, paved the way for India's conquest and fall.

And so the Hindu nation, in its death-throes, gave birth as a swan's song to the world's greatest book, the " Mahabharata" ; and of all the discourses bequeathed to us by the great ones of the past, none can thrill more deeply than that of Bhishma on duty in the various walks of life. He was chosen of the gods to give it because he had never failed in duty.

They were giants in those days, and refusing soft cushions brought to him, the dying hero gave it from his bed of arrows,

waiting till the sun should turn into the northern course, the appointed time for him to die.

Yudisthira, the eldest grandson of the Princess and the sage, founded Indrasprastha,

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